



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

City of San Diego  
Planning & Development Review  
**Building Development Review**  
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# Building Newsletter 18-6

## Stepped Footing Requirements

Interpretations of State and Local Building Codes  
1998 California Building Code: Chapter 18  
Revision Date: July 1999

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### I. Requirements

Section 1806.4 of the Building Code requires that "foundations for all buildings where the surface of the ground slopes more than one foot in 10 feet shall be level or shall be stepped so that both top and bottom of such foundations are level."

### II. Acceptable Methods

Figure 1 illustrates an acceptable method of constructing stepped foundations.

**Figure 1/Reinforced stepped foundation**

